

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions,
and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1 (Currently amended). A monoclonal IgG antibody (Mab)
capable of binding Placental Protein 13 (PP-13) with ~~high~~ ^{at least}
affinity and of detecting PP-13 at a concentration of 10 pg/ml in
a sandwich ELISA assay.

2 (Currently amended). [[A]] The Mab according to Claim
1 produced by a hybridoma cell selected from the group consisting
of clones ~~#26-2, 27-2-3, 215-28-3, 534-16 and 606-8-11-67~~
deposited under accession nos. I-2134, I-2135, I-2136, I-2137,
and I-2138.

⁴
3 (Currently amended). A hybridoma ~~clone~~ selected from
the group consisting of clones ~~#26-2, 27-2-3, 215-28-3, 534-16~~
~~and 606-8-11-67~~ deposited under accession nos. I-2134, I-2135,
I-2136, I-2137 and I-2138.

⁵
4 (Currently amended). An immunoassay for measuring the
level of PP-13 in a biological fluid, comprising the steps of:

~~(One)~~ ³(a) bringing said fluid into contact with a Mab according to any of Claims 1, 2, or ~~[[16]] 18~~, thereby forming Mab-PP-13 complexes;

~~(Two)~~ ³(b) exposing said complexes to a second Mab according to any of claims 1, 2, or ~~[[16]] 18~~ linked to a signal-generating molecule, said second Mab being capable of binding said complexes; and

~~(Three)~~ ³(c) providing conditions conducive to the production of a signal generated by said signal-generating molecule, the level of said signal indicating the level of PP-13 in the biological fluid,

wherein said immunoassay is capable of measuring PP-13 ~~over~~ at a concentration range of 10-500 pg/ml.

⁶~~5~~(Currently amended). ~~[[An]]~~ The immunoassay according to Claim ⁵~~4~~, wherein said Mab in step (a) is bound to a solid phase.

Claim 6 (Cancelled).

⁸~~7~~(Currently amended). ~~[[An]]~~ The immunoassay according to ~~either of Claims 4 or 5~~ ⁵Claim ~~4~~, wherein said signal generating molecule is an enzyme.

⁹
~~8~~(Currently amended). ~~[[An]]~~ The immunoassay according to either of ~~Claims 4 or 5~~ Claim ⁵~~4~~, wherein said signal generating molecule is a ligand, and step (c) of Claim ⁵~~4~~ comprises incubating the product of step (b) with a ligand binding molecule linked to an enzyme.

¹⁰
~~9~~(Currently amended). A kit for measuring the level of PP-13 in a biological fluid, comprising:

- (a) a Mab according to Claim 1;
- (b) a second antibody linked to a signal-generating molecule, wherein said second antibody is also a Mab according to Claim 1; and
- (c) PP-13 standard solutions.

¹¹
~~10~~(Currently amended). A kit for measuring the level of PP-13 in a biological fluid, comprising:

- ~~(One)~~ ³
(a) a Mab according to any of Claims 1, 2, or ~~[[16]]~~ ³~~18~~;
- ~~(Two)~~ ³
(b) a second Mab according to any of Claims 1, 2, or ~~[[16]]~~ ³~~18~~ linked to a signal-generating molecule; and
- ~~(Three)~~ ³
(c) PP-13 standard solutions.

¹³
¹⁰
~~11~~(Currently amended). ~~[[A]]~~ The kit according to Claim ¹³~~9~~, wherein said signal generating molecule is an enzyme.

Claim 12 (Cancelled)

17

~~13~~¹⁰(Currently amended). [[A]] The kit according to Claim ~~[[12]]~~ ⁹, wherein said signal-generating molecule ~~ligand~~ is biotin and ~~said ligand binding molecule is~~ the kit further comprises extravidin linked to an enzyme.

12

The

C ~~14~~(Previously presented). ~~A~~ *Mab* according to Claim 1, capable of detecting PP-13 at a concentration of 0.05 ng/ml in a sandwich ELISA assay.

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~~13~~¹³(Currently amended). [[A]] The kit according to Claim ~~11~~, wherein said signal generating molecule is an enzyme.

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~~13~~¹³(Currently amended). [[A]] The kit according to Claim ~~11~~, wherein said signal generating molecule is a ligand, and said kit further comprises a ligand binding molecule linked to an enzyme.

16

~~15~~¹⁵(Currently amended). [[A]] The kit according to Claim ~~18~~, wherein said ligand is biotin and said ligand-binding molecule is extravidin.

3

~~18~~(New). The Mab according to Claim 2 produced by the hybridoma clone deposited under accession no. I-2135 or I-2136.

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⁹
~~19~~(New). The immunoassay according to Claim ⁶~~5~~, wherein
said signal generating molecule is an enzyme.